USGS-NPS Vegetation Mapping Program Congaree Swamp National Monument

Salix nigra - Fraxinus pennsylvanica Forest

COMMON NAME Black Willow - Green Ash Forest

SYNONYM

PHYSIOGNOMIC CLASS Forest (I.)

PHYSIOGNOMIC SUBCLASS Deciduous forest (I.B.)

PHYSIOGNOMIC GROUP Cold-deciduous forest (I.B.2.)

PHYSIOGNOMIC SUBGROUP Natural/Semi-natural (I.B.2.N.)

FORMATION Temporarily flooded cold-deciduous forest (I.B.2.N.d.)

ALLIANCE Salix nigra Temporarily Flooded Forest Alliance

CLASSIFICATION CONFIDENCE LEVEL 1

USFWS WETLAND SYSTEM Palustrine

RANGE

Globally

Salix nigra - Fraxinus pennsylvanica Forest has been newly described based on data from the Congaree Swamp National Monument. Global distribution needs assessment but likely includes the Atlantic Coastal Plain from Georgia to Virginia.

Congaree Swamp National Monument

This forest type is documented along the Congaree River.

ENVIRONMENTAL DESCRIPTION

Globally

Salix nigra - Fraxinus pennsylvanica Forest has been newly described based on data from the Congaree Swamp National Monument. Global environmental conditions await description.

Congaree Swamp National Monument

Salix nigra - Fraxinus pennsylvanica Forest occurs on moderately well-drained sandy clay loam soils on lower convex slopes of levees of the Congaree River. These sites are temporarily flooded with a high frequency of flooding that is of shorter duration than in lower areas

farther from the river.

MOST ABUNDANT SPECIES

Globally

Global description is the same as the Monument-specific description below.

Congaree Swamp National Monument

Stratum Species

Tree canopy Salix nigra, Fraxinus pennsylvanica

DIAGNOSTIC SPECIES

Globally

Global description is the same as the Monument-specific description below.

Congaree Swamp National Monument

Salix nigra as the canopy dominant is diagnostic of this community.

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VEGETATION DESCRIPTION

Globally

Global description is the same as the Monument-specific description below

Congaree Swamp National Monument

The mostly closed to closed canopy layer is strongly dominated by *Salix nigra*. Other typical species in the canopy include *Fraxinus pennsylvanica, Platanus occidentalis,* and likely others. The shrub layer is sparse, and species present include *Salix nigra, Taxodium distichum, Planera aquatica, Celtis laevigata, Platanus occidentalis, Acer rubrum, Liquidambar styraciflua, <i>Acer negundo,* and likely others. The herbaceous stratum typically is sparse. Species present in the herbaceous layer include *Boehmeria cylindrica, Saururus cernuus,* and others. The vine layer is absent to very sparse.

OTHER NOTEWORTHY SPECIES

CONSERVATION RANK G3G4

RANK JUSTIFICATION

DATABASE CODE CEGL007734

COMMENTS

REFERENCES